

State Injury Indicators



Unintentional Fire-Related Hospitalizations

Category:	Fire-Related Indicators
Demographic Group:	All residents.
Numerator:	Hospitalizations with any of the following ICD-9-CM E-codes identified from the injury hospital discharge subset: E890–E899 (Accident caused by fire and flames).
Denominator:	Midyear population for the calendar year under surveillance.
Measures of Frequency:	Annual number of persons hospitalized. Annual incidence—crude and age-adjusted (standardized by the direct method to the year 2000 standard U.S. population).
Period for Case Definition:	Calendar year.
Background:	In 2005, fire departments responded to 396,000 home fires in the U.S., which claim the lives of 3,030 people (not including firefighters) and injured another 13,825 (not including firefighters). [*] Residential fires disproportionately affect young children, older adults, African Americans, and Native Americans. ^{**} Working smoke alarms reduce the chance of dying in a house fire by 40% to 50%; however, about 25% of U.S. households lack working smoke alarms. ^{***, ****}
Limitations of Indicator:	Injuries that result in a hospital admission represent only a portion of the overall burden of injury. Evaluations of these injuries should be considered in the context of both less- and more-severe injuries.
Data Resources:	State hospital discharge data (numerator) and population estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau or suitable alternative (denominator).
Limitations of Data Resources:	The accuracy of indicators based on codes found in hospital discharge data is limited by the completeness and quality of coding. The overall completeness of e-coding is of particular concern and should be reviewed in conjunction with the indicator.
Healthy People 2010 Objectives:	No objective.
CDC's Health Protection Goals:	Healthy People in Every Stage of Life: Crosscutting Healthy People in Healthy Places: Healthy Homes

^{*}Karter MJ. Fire loss in the United States during 2005, Abridged report. Quincy (MA): National Fire Protection Association, Fire Analysis and Research Division; 2006. ^{**}Mallonee S, Istre G, Rosenberg M, Reddish-Douglas M, Jordan F, Silverstein P, et al. Surveillance and prevention of residential-fire injuries. *N Eng J Med* 1996;335:27-31. ^{***}Ahrens M. U.S. experience with smoke alarms and other fire alarms. Quincy (MA): National Fire Protection Association; 2001. ^{****}Smith CL. Smoke detector operability survey-report findings. Bethesda (MD): U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission; 1993 Nov.